

Appl. No. 10/743,235

Amdt. dated March 3, 2005

Reply to Office Action of November 4, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A roller assembly, comprising:

a platen roller including a central axle being exposed at opposite ends of said platen roller;
a frame for mounting said platen at both exposed axle ends;

said frame including a main body and a separate plurality of fork structure structures adapted for mounting each exposed axle end;

each said fork structure being adapted to constrain a respective axle end from moving away from said frame; and

a plurality of bias mechanism mechanisms, each said bias mechanism being operative independently of said other bias mechanisms and each said bias mechanism being cooperatively associated with each one of said fork structure structures and being adapted to push said respective axle end away from said frame and against said fork structure:

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Claim 2 (currently amended). The roller assembly of Claim 1, wherein each said bias mechanism is adapted to allow movement of a respective axle end towards said main body of said frame and against said bias mechanism.

Claim 3. (currently amended). The roller assembly of Claim 2, wherein each exposed axle end includes a bearing and further wherein each said fork structure is adapted to retain said bearing and to allow movement of the bearing directly towards the main body of said frame.

Claim 4 (currently amended). The roller assembly of Claim 3, wherein said bias mechanism comprises a bearing retainer which is biased away from said main body of said frame by said bias mechanism and adapted to engage said bearing.

Claim 5 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 4 wherein said bearing retainer is adapted to constrain said bearings from lateral movement with respect to said frame.

Claim 6 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 3, wherein each said fork structure is adapted to constrain said bearings from lateral movement with respect to said frame.

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Claim 7 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 6, wherein each said fork structure includes a pair of members extending from said frame and adapted to extend around opposite sides of a said bearing.

Claim 8 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 7, wherein each pair of members of said fork structure is separated by a first space having a sufficient size to allow a said bearing to pass axially therethrough.

Claim 9 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 8, wherein one said fork structure of said frame has an additional spacing between said pair of members which additional spacing is sufficiently large enough to allow said platen roller to pass axially therethrough.

Claim 10 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 9, wherein said first space and said additional spacing are located proximally to said frame.

Claim 11 (original). The roller assembly of Claim 10, wherein said platen roller is adapted to be assembled to said frame by passing said roller axially through said additional spacing of said one fork structure, passing a bearing through said first spacing between another said fork structure of said frame and installing said bias

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mechanisms in each fork structure to bias an axle end
towards a respective fork structure.